

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 252912

61

ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 ITFE-00 DHA-02 ORM-01 INSE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 /074 R

DRAFTED BY EA/VLC:LMPETERS:JCM

APPROVED BY IO/UNP:ROBLAKE

EA:RHMILLER

D/HA:EGREEN

IATF:JBROH-KAHN (SUBS.)

EA/VLC:JDROSENTHAL

----- 112668

P 232351Z OCT 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 252912

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, VS

SUBJECT: VIETNAMESE RETURNEES

REFS: A. USUN 5157 (NOTAL); B. STATE 245327

1. AS APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITY ARISES, YOU MAY WISH TO
DRAW ON FOLLOWING POINTS WITH GUYER AND OTHER UN
OFFICIALS TO EXPLAIN REPATRIATION OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES
FROM GUAM ABOARD VIETNAMESE SHIP THUONG TIN I. SHIP
SAILED FROM GUAM OCTOBER 17 WITH 1546 PERSONS, AND
WAS WEST OF THE PHILIPPINES OCTOBER 22. VOYAGE HAS THUS
FAR GONE UNEVENTFULLY.

-- USG DECISION TAKEN IN RESPONSE TO REPATRIATES'

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 252912

REPEATED REQUESTS TO RETURN TO VIET-NAM BY SHIP. A

PETITION ADDRESSED BY REPATRIATES TO THE PRESIDENT IN SEPTEMBER DESCRIBED THEIR FRUSTRATION AT BEING SEPARATED FROM FAMILIES AS MAJOR REASON FOR ARDENT DESIRE TO RETURN.

-- USG AND VIETNAMESE AUTHORITIES HAD REQUESTED UNHCR TO ASSIST IN REPATRIATION OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES WHO WISHED TO RETURN HOME. HOWEVER, DESPITE BEST EFFORTS OF

UNHCR, INCLUDING A TRIP BY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO VIET-NAM IN SEPTEMBER, VIETNAMESE AUTHORITIES DECLINED TO SET DATES OR PROVIDE ANY OTHER ASSURANCES THAT REPATRIATION COULD TAKE PLACE AT SOME EARLY TIME. (U.S. REPRESENTATIVE JAMES WILSON REVIEWED THIS MATTER IN DETAIL DURING UNHCR EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING IN GENEVA OCTOBER 7.)

-- DECISION TO RETURN ABOARD THUONG TIN RESTED ENTIRELY WITH REFUGEES. PRIOR TO EMBARCATION EACH REPATRIATE OR HEAD OF REPATRIATE HOUSEHOLD WAS INTERVIEWED TO CONFIRM HIS DECISION TO RETURN ABOARD THE SHIP. THE PROCESSING AND DEPARTURE WERE OBSERVED BY THE AMERICAN RED CROSS.

-- U.S. TOOK ALL FEASIBLE STEPS TO ASSURE SAFETY OF VOYAGE. THOSE STEPS, INCLUDING LLOYDS OF LONDON INSPECTION, DESCRIBED PARA 1 C REF B, BEING REPEATED SEPARATELY TO YOU.

-- U.S. IS PREPARED TO ASSIST SHIP IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDARD MARITIME PRACTICE AT ANY TIME ASSISTANCE REQUESTED.

-- SOME REFUGEES WHO HAVE REQUESTED REPATRIATION DID NOT ELECT TO RETURN ABOARD SHIP. WE HAVE ASKED THE UNHCR TO CONTINUE ACTING ON THEIR BEHALF AND TO CONTINUE TO ASSIST THEM -- AND ANY OTHERS WHO MIGHT IN FUTURE DECIDE TO GO BACK -- IN RETURNING TO VIET-NAM.

2. AS REF B NOTES, IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS ABOUT DRV/PRG ALLEGATIONS THAT U.S. DECISION VIOLATES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 252912

VIETNAMESE SOVEREIGNTY, WE HAVE REPLIED THAT U.S. HAD NO RPT NO OTHER INTENTION BEYOND HUMANITARIAN ONE OF PROVIDING REPATRIATES OPPORTUNITY TO REJOIN THEIR FAMILIES. DEPT HAS NOT RPT NOT SPECULATED PUBLICLY ON WHETHER AND HOW VIETNAMESE AUTHORITIES WILL RECEIVE THE SHIP WHEN IT REACHES VIETNAMESE WATERS LATE THIS WEEK. INGERSOLL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEES, REPATRIATION, SHIPS, THUONG TIN I
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE252912
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: LMPETERS:JCM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750369-0546
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751026/aaaaaxpt.tel
Line Count: 114
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 JUN 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <03 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VIETNAMESE RETURNEES
TAGS: SREF, VS, GQ, UN
To: USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006